



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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Pat Quinn, Governor

Marc Miller, Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IDNR Awards Biodiversity Field Trip Grants to Illinois Schools

Privately Funded Program to Assist Nearly 6,000 Students in Learning About Illinois' Natural Heritage

SPRINGFIELD, IL - Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Director Marc Miller today announced the awarding of more than \$63,000 in Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grants. The grants will allow nearly 6,000 students to visit Illinois state parks, museums and other natural resources sites to learn about nature and conservation.

“This program, which is funded entirely by private donations, allows students to visit locations throughout the state to see first-hand what they’ve been learning about in the classroom,” said Director Miller. “These grants help facilitate a whole new world for students, some who otherwise may not have such an opportunity to experience the natural wonders of Illinois.”

The Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grants are made possible by private donations to the Illinois Conservation Foundation (ICF). The Independence Tube Corporation of Chicago and the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation of Skokie provided the majority of the funds for 2011. The 65 grant recipients are located throughout Illinois and represent students from pre-kindergarten through high school. Since its inception in 2001, the program has distributed more than \$445,000 and reached more than 47,000 students.

The competitive grant program allows Illinois teachers to apply for funds to take students out of the classroom to study Illinois’ biodiversity. Learning activities must meet the Illinois Learning Standards from the Illinois State Board of Education. Funding is administered by the ICF and covers expenses such as transportation and substitute teachers.

For more information about the Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grant Program, contact the IDNR Division of Education at dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov or (217) 524-4126. The Illinois Conservation

foundation accepts donations for the Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grant Program. Visit the ICF website at www.ilcf.org for additional information.

2011 Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grant Awards

Adams County

- ✓ *Baldwin Elementary School, Quincy.* Grade: 5. Destination: John Wood Community College, Quincy. Grant Award: \$800.

Bond County

- ✓ *Greenville Elementary School, Greenville.* Grade: 4. Destination: Greenville College, White Environmental Education Center, Greenville. Grant Award: \$153.

Champaign County

- ✓ *St. Joseph Grade School, St. Joseph.* Grade: kindergarten. Destination: Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, Chicago. Grant Award: \$1,000.

Clark County

- ✓ *Casey-Westfield Junior High School, Casey.* Grades: 7-8. Destination: Fox Ridge State Park, Charleston. Grant Award: \$235.

Clinton County

- ✓ *Carlyle Grade School, Carlyle.* Grade: 3. Destination: Eversgerd's Fort, Germantown. Grant Award: \$250.

Coles County

- ✓ *Jefferson Elementary School, Charleston.* Grade: 6. Destination: Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe. Grant Award: \$787.

Cook County

- ✓ *A-Karrasel Child Care Center, Chicago.* Grades: pre-kindergarten and kindergarten. Destination: Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield. Grant Award: \$400.
- ✓ *Academy for Global Citizenship, Chicago.* Grade: 3. Destination: Bartel Grassland, Matteson. Grant Award: \$400.00
- ✓ *Claremont Math and Science Academy, Chicago.* Grade: 5. Destination: Starved Rock State Park, Illinois Waterways Visitors' Center and La Salle County Historical Museum, Utica. Grant Award: \$1,000.
- ✓ *Goudy Technology Magnet Cluster, Chicago.* Grade: 8. Destination: Lorado Taft Outdoor Education Center, Oregon. Grant Award: \$4,000.
- ✓ *Hibbard Elementary School, Chicago.* Grade: 3. Destination: North Park Village Nature Center, Chicago. Grant Award: \$270.
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- ✓ *Hibbard Elementary School, Chicago.* Grade: 3. Destination: Northerly Island, Chicago. Grant Award: \$540.

- ✓ *Indiana Elementary School, Park Forest.* Grades: 4-6. Destination: Central Park Wetlands, Park Forest. Grant Award: \$680.
- ✓ *John B. Murphy Elementary School, Chicago.* Grade: pre-kindergarten. Destination: North Park Village Nature Center, Chicago. Grant Award: \$300.
- ✓ *Longfellow School, Field School and Whitman School, Buffalo Grove.* Grades: 3-5. Destination: River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook. Grant Award: \$646.
- ✓ *Pleasant Hill School, Palatine.* Grade: pre-kindergarten. Destination: Spring Valley Nature Center, Schaumburg. Grant Award: \$1,900.
- ✓ *Poe School and Twain School, Arlington Heights.* Grades: 3-5. Destination: River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook. Grant Award: \$585.
- ✓ *Reba Early Learning Center, Evanston.* Grade: pre-kindergarten. Destination: Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, Chicago. Grant Award: \$420.
- ✓ *Reba Early Learning Center, Evanston.* Grade: pre-kindergarten. Destination: Evanston Ecology Center, Evanston. Grant Award: \$310.
- ✓ *Robert Frost Elementary School, Mt. Prospect.* Grade: 5. Destination: Sunrise Lake, Bartlett. Grant Award: \$500.
- ✓ *Ruben Salazar Bilingual Education Center, Chicago.* Grades: 7-8. Destination: McLaughry Springs Forest Preserve, Palos Hills. Grant Award: \$400.
- ✓ *St. Symphorosa, Chicago.* Grades: 3-4. Destination: Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, Chicago. Grant Award: \$518.
- ✓ *Talkington School and Kilmer School, Wheeling.* Grades: 3-5. Destination: River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook. Grant Award: \$463.
- ✓ *The Chicago Academy, Chicago.* Grade: kindergarten. Destination: North Park Village Nature Center, Chicago. Grant Award: \$270.
- ✓ *Victor Herbert Elementary School, Chicago.* Grade: 3. Destination: The Morton Arboretum, Lisle. Grant Award: \$500.

Douglas County

- ✓ *East Prairie School, Tuscola.* Grade: 7. Destination: Douglas-Hart Nature Center, Mattoon. Grant Award: \$393.
- ✓ *Villa Grove High School, Villa Grove.* Grades: 9-12. Destination: Fox Ridge State Park, Charleston. Grant Award: \$100.

Du Page County

- ✓ *Benjamin Middle School, West Chicago.* Grade: 6. Destination: Lorado Taft Outdoor Education Center, Oregon. Grant Award: \$1,100.
- ✓ *Goodrich Elementary School, Woodridge.* Grade: 5. Destination: White Pines Outdoor Education Center, Oregon. Grant Award: \$1,000.
- ✓ *Spring Wood Middle School, Hanover Park.* Grade: 6. Destination: White Pines Dude Ranch, Oregon. Grant Award: \$5,000.
- ✓ *Whittier School, Downers Grove.* Grade: 1. Destination: Lyman Woods, Downers Grove. Grant Award: \$3,055.

Ford County

- ✓ *Tri-point Junior High School, Piper City.* Grade: 7. Destination: Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area, Chandlerville; Illinois Natural

History Survey Illinois River Biological Station, Havana; Sanganois Conservation Area, Chandlerville; Emiquon National Wildlife Refuge, Havana. Grant Award: \$500.

Hamilton County

- ✓ *Dahlgren Grade School, Dahlgren.* Grades: 3-4. Destination: Touch of Nature Environmental Center, Makanda. Grant Award: \$945.
- ✓ *Hamilton County High School, McLeansboro.* Grades: 9-12. Destination: Cache River Visitors' Center and Wetlands, Cypress. Grant Award: \$402.

Jackson County

- ✓ *Christ Lutheran School, Jacob.* Grades: 6-8. Destination: Camp Wartburg, Waterloo. Grant Award: \$500.

Jefferson County

- ✓ *Farrington Grade School, Bluford.* Grades: 3-4. Destination: Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge, Marion. Grant Award: \$350.

Kane County

- ✓ *Sheridan Elementary School, Elgin.* Grade: 6. Destination: Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation, Dundee; Elgin Public Museum, Elgin; Tekakwitha Woods Forest Preserve, St. Charles; Crystal Lake Park District, Crystal Lake; Elgin Area Historical Society, Elgin. Grant Award: \$2,000.

Lake County

- ✓ *Hawthorn Elementary South, Vernon Hills.* Grade: 1. Destination: Heller Nature Center, Highland Park. Grant Award: \$500.
- ✓ *Hawthorn Elementary South, Vernon Hills.* Grade: 1. Destination: Heller Nature Center, Highland Park. Grant Award: \$500.
- ✓ *Palombi Middle School, Lake Villa.* Grade: 7. Destination: Discovery Wildlife Center and McCormick Nature Preserve, Lake Forest; Openlands Lake Shore Preserve, Fort Sheridan. Grant Award: \$2,528.90

Logan County

- ✓ *Olympia South Elementary School, Atlanta.* Grades: pre-kindergarten-5. Destination: Sugar Grove Nature Center, McLean. Grant Award: \$1,725.

Macoupin County

- ✓ *Brighton North Elementary School, Brighton.* Grade: 6. Destination: Beaver Dam State Park, Plainview. Grant Award: \$400.

Madison County

- ✓ *East Alton Wood River High School, Wood River.* Grades: 9-12. Destination: Kickapoo State Park, Oakwood. Grant Award: \$567.

- ✓ *St. John Neumann Catholic School, Maryville.* Grades: 5-6. Destination: Camp Ondessonk, Ozark. Grant Award: \$850.
- ✓ *Triad High School, Troy.* Grades: 9-12. Destination: Volo Bog State Natural Area and Moraine Hills State Natural Area, Ingleside; Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Wilmington. Grant Award: \$500.

Mason County

- ✓ *Havana Junior High School, Havana.* Grade: 8. Destination: Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge, Havana. Grant Award: \$400.

Massac County

- ✓ *Maple Grove Elementary School, Metropolis.* Grades: 3-6. Destination: Mermet Lake, Belknap. Grant Award: \$134.

McLean County

- ✓ *Normal Community West High School, Normal.* Grades: 11-12. Destination: Lake Bartels, Rantoul. Grant Award: \$487.

Randolph County

- ✓ *Sparta Lincoln Middle School, Sparta.* Grades: 5-7. Destination: Cache River Wetlands, Belknap. Grant Award: \$1,255.

Rock Island County

- ✓ *Mercer County Intermediate School, Aledo; Franklin School, Moline; Riverdale School, Port Byron; Thomas Jefferson School, Milan.* Grades: 4-6. Destination: Loud Thunder Forest Preserve, Illinois City. Grant Award: \$1,200.
- ✓ *Rock Island Center for Math and Science, Rock Island; Mercer County Intermediate School, Aledo; Logan School, Moline; Butterworth School, Moline.* Grades: 4-6. Destination: Loud Thunder Forest Preserve, Illinois City. Grant Award: \$1,800.

Sangamon County

- ✓ *Grant Middle School, Springfield.* Grade: 6. Destination: Camp Cilca, Cantrall. Grant Award: \$3,267.
- ✓ *Little Flower School, Springfield.* Grade: 8. Destination: Wildlife Prairie State Park, Peoria. Grant Award: \$500.

Shelby County

- ✓ *Gregory Intermediate School, Moweaqua.* Grade: 5. Destination: Camp Maranatha, Ramsey. Grant Award: \$750.
- ✓ *Gregory Intermediate School, Moweaqua.* Grade: 5. Destination: Lewis and Clark State Historic Site, Hartford; Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, Collinsville. Grant Award: \$750.

St. Clair County

- ✓ *Grant Middle School, Fairview Heights.* Grade: 6. Destination: Little Grassy Lake and Giant City State Park, Makanda. Grant Award: \$500.

White County

- ✓ *Carmi White County Middle School, Carmi.* Grade: 7. Destination: Cache River Wetlands Center, Cypress. Grant Award: \$452.

Will County

- ✓ *Kelvin Grove Middle School, Lockport.* Grade: 7. Destination: Environmental Learning Center, Mokena. Grant Award: \$1,108.
- ✓ *Robert C. Hill School, Romeoville.* Grades: 3-5. Destination: Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe; Lake Renwick, Romeoville. Grant Award: \$1,000.

Williamson County

- ✓ *Carterville Intermediate School, Carterville.* Grade: 8. Destination: Giant City State Park and Little Grassy Lake, Makanda. Grant Award: \$4,500.
- ✓ *Carterville Intermediate School, Carterville.* Grade: 5. Destination: Cache River Wetlands, Karnak. Grant Award: \$2,500.
- ✓ *Williamson County Special Education, Marion.* Grades: 6-12. Destination: Touch of Nature Environmental Center, Makanda. Grant Award: \$1,150.

Winnebago County

- ✓ *Brookview Elementary School, Rockford.* Grade: 2. Destination: Severson Dells Nature Center, Rockford. Grant Award: \$480.
- ✓ *Cherry Valley Elementary School, Cherry Valley.* Grade: 3. Destination: Severson Dells, Rockford. Grant Award: \$1,044.

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